

it will be easily understood how interesting it was to me to at last definitely know that this plant actually grew in the State.

SHORTER NOTES

DOUBLE FLOWERS IN *HEMEROCALLUS FULVA*, LINN.—Because such never seems to have been previously recorded for the day lily (*Hemerocallis fulva* L.) and seems to have been infrequently observed in the Liliaceae as a family, the writer reports double flowers in this species. Observations based on six specimens collected from the premises of Prof. F. C. Nipher, Kirkwood, Mo., are given.

The perianth consists of 12 distinct segments, alternating with and overlapping one another. Stamens 12, two of which are borne on opposite segments of the perianth. Occasionally a small number of the stamens are aborted. Styles two in number, adjacent and united, but mostly aborted to a C-shaped or claw-shaped appendages. The plant is quite typical with regard to color.

Dissections revealed no sign of insect injury, etc., to which the double flowers might be attributed. The ovules appeared to be unusually minute. Observers of the particular group of plants in previous years stated they had never noted double flowers. Since it was found that botanical terminology supplies no technical term descriptive of this particular condition, there is suggested the term *diploous* (Greek—literally two-fold), as being advantageous.—N. M. GRIER.

REVIEWS

McAtee's Natural History of the District of Columbia*

The study of the vegetation or fauna of any area in the Eastern States is so likely to be bound up with the history of the region

* McAtee, W. L. A sketch of the natural history of the District of Columbia, together with an indexed edition of the U. S. Geological Survey's 1917 map of Washington and vicinity. Pp. 1-142 + 5 maps. Price \$2.15 postpaid. May, 1918.

Published as No. 1 of the Bulletin of the Biological Society of Washington and to be secured only from them by purchase.

that it is curious to find such general neglect of this among writers on these subjects. Perhaps with this in mind the author of the present book has devoted nearly half of it to historical notes on the natural history of the region, before giving his descriptions in detail of the present distribution of life in the District of Columbia.

This section of the book is about forty pages long and includes "Piedmont Plateau and Coastal Plain," "Magnolia Bogs and their relation to the Pine Barrens," ending with a description of other types of collecting grounds in the District. Associations of plants and animals are dealt with in all these essays.

The indexed map of the region is quite the most complete thing of its kind that comes to mind. In the region near New York there are scores of old place names, now known only to the delving few, and that similar conditions prevail about Washington is proven by Mr. McAtee's map which incidentally furnishes a remedy for them that would be welcomed in New York.

In the historical part of the book the attempt to translate old references to plants into modern binomials has not always been happy, as for instance "yellow jessamine" (probably *Gelsemium sempervirens*) is in a footnote referred to *Bignonia radicans*, which is of course the Trumpet Creeper. It remains, however, that the volume, with its excellent bibliographies, both plant and animal, and its most generously indexed map, will be a boon to Washington naturalists and a model of the complete description of the natural history of an area meriting wide imitation.

N. T.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

MAY 29, 1918

This meeting was held in the Morphological Laboratory of the New York Botanical Garden, beginning at 3:30 P.M. Ten persons were present with Vice-president Barnhart in the chair.

The minutes of the meetings of April 24 and May 14 were read and approved.

The following were elected to membership, subject to approval of the committee on admissions.